

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 03066 180349Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 EB-08 OES-07 DOE-11 SOE-02 AID-05 IGA-02
ACDA-12 CU-06 HUD-02 OMB-01 /129 W
-----086463 181153Z /14

R 171615Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5971
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS BONN 03066

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: NEW CABINET MINISTERS ASSUME OFFICE

REFS: A) BONN 2179; B) BONN 2638 (NOTAL)

1. AT THE OPENING OF THE FEBRUARY 16 SESSION, BUNDESTAG
PRESIDENT CARSTENS ADMINISTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO
THE FOUR NEW MEMBERS OF THE FRG CABINET: VOLKER HAUFF
(RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY), DIETER HAACK (HOUSING AND
CONSTRUCTION), JUERGEN SCHMUDE (EDUCATION AND SCIENCE),
AND RAINER OFFERGELD (ECONOMIC COOPERATION). THE OTHER
TWO MINISTERS INVOLVED IN THE RESHUFFLE -- HANS APEL
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(DEFENSE), AND HANS MATTHOEFER (FINANCE) -- WERE NOT
SWORN IN ANEW, BECAUSE THEY WERE ALREADY MEMBERS OF
THE CABINET.

2. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT NOW HAS HIS THIRD CABINET SINCE
HE SUCCEEDED WILLY BRANDT IN MAY 1974. THE NEW TEAM
IS MARKEDLY YOUNGER, BETTER EDUCATED, AND MORE

TECHNOCRATIC THAN ITS PREDECESSORS. AS A RESULT, THE CONSERVATIVE "WORKER" COMPONENT IS SMALLER THAN IN EARLIER SCHMIDT CABINETS, A TREND WHICH REFLECTS THE CHANGING DEMOGRAPHIC MAKEUP OF THE SPD AS A WHOLE. SINCE THE 1976 ELECTIONS, FIVE TRADITIONALIST SPD MINISTERS HAVE MADE WAY FOR THE NEW GENERATION: WALTER ARENDT WAS REPLACED BY HERBERT EHRENBURG (LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS), GEORG LEBER BY HANS APEL (DEFENSE), MARIE SCHLEI BY RAINER OFFERGELD (ECONOMIC COOPERATION), KARL RAVENS BY DIETER HAACK (HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION), AND HELMUT RHODE BY JUERGEN SCHMUDE (EDUCATION AND SCIENCE).
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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